

## SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS COMMUNICATIONS

## **NEWS**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## "National Dog Bite Prevention Week"

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – Did you know that nearly 4.7 million Americans suffer from dog bites each year? And, many of them require medical attention! The Sedgwick County Animal Control Office reminds you of these safety tips during "National Dog Bite Prevention Week" (May 19-26):

- · Never approach an unfamiliar dog.
- If approached by an unfamiliar dog, stand still like a tree.
- Never run from a dog and never scream around a dog.
- If you believe a dog is about to attack you, try to place something between yourself and the dog, such as a backpack or a bicycle.
- If a dog knocks you over, roll into a ball, cover your face and stay still.
- Children should never play with dogs unless supervised by an adult.
- Children should tell an adult if they see a stray dog or a dog acting strangely.
- Don't disturb a dog that is sleeping, eating or caring for puppies.
- Adults should never leave an infant or young child alone with any dog, not even the family pet.

"These tips provide families with the knowledge to reduce their chances of being bitten," said Sedgwick County Commission Chairman Ben Sciortino. "Our Animal Control Officers are out in the community to help assure the safety of our citizens, but these are steps that anyone can take," Sciortino said.

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